

phosphite regulated ~~low molecular weight~~ polyacrylic acid, said regulating agent being suitable for use as a crosslinking agent in a subsequent reaction step, and crosslinked by a polyhydroxy crosslinking agent carried out in a curing oven at a temperature from 200°C to 350°C for ½ to 3 minutes for a product having a binder lost-on-ignition (LOI) ranging from 1.4% to 25%.

18. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 17, wherein said phosphite based regulating agent ~~cure accelerator~~ further comprises a constituent selected from the group consisting of, sodium phosphite, potassium phosphite, disodium pyrophosphate, tetrasodium pyrophosphate, sodium tripolyphosphate, sodium hexametaphosphate, potassium phosphate, potassium polymetaphosphate, potassium polyphosphate, potassium tripolyphosphate, sodium trimetaphosphate, sodium tetrametaphosphate, and mixtures thereof.

19. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 18, wherein said phosphite based regulating agent ~~cure accelerator~~ is selected from the group consisting of sodium hypophosphite, sodium phosphite, and mixtures thereof.

21. (New) The composition of claim 17, wherein said polyacrylic acid has weight-average molecular weight ranging from 1000 through 10,000.

22. (New) The composition of claim 20, wherein the polyacrylic acid molecular weight is between 2000 and 6000.

## REMARKS

### Status of Claims

Claims 17-19, 21 and 22 are pending in the application, claims 1-16 and 20 having been cancelled in response to the Restriction Requirement of the outstanding Office Action. All claims stand rejected. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following Remarks.

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